

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service as Express Mail, No. EU098496405US, in an envelope addressed to: 'Box Non-Fed Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231, on the date shown below.

Dated: March 21, 2003

Signature: *Beth J. Cobb*

(Beth J. Cobb)

# 16/C  
DP  
4/3/3  
Docket No.: HO-P01880US1  
(PATENT)

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Patent Application of:  
Paul M. Ducker, et al.

Application No.: 09/615,978

Group Art Unit: 3761

Filed: July 14, 2000

Examiner: Stephens, J.F.

For: DISPOSABLE ABSORBENT ARTICLE  
EMPLOYING AN ABSORBENT COMPOSITE,  
AND METHOD OF MAKING THE SAME

RECEIVED  
MAR 31 2003  
TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

**RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION MAILED OCTOBER 21, 2002**

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, DC 20231

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed October 21, 2002, please amend the above-identified U.S. patent application as follows:

**In the Specification:**

On page 14, line 15, please delete "ration" and insert therefor - - ratio - - .

**In the Claims:**

Please amend the claims as follows:

cl sub 1.  
A disposable absorbent article comprising:  
a topsheet;  
a backsheet; and  
an absorbent core disposed therebetween;  
wherein [at least one of said backsheet, topsheet, and] said absorbent core is constructed of an absorbent composite including



Please type a plus sign inside this box → ☐

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number.

PTO/SB/21 (08-00)

Approved for use through 10/31/2002. OMB 0651-0031

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

# TRANSMITTAL FORM

(to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)

Application Number	09/615,978
Filing Date	July 14, 2000
First Named Inventor	Paul M. Ducker
Group Art Unit	3761
Examiner Name	J.F. Stephens
Attorney Docket Number	HO-P01880US1

Total Number of Pages in This Submission 1

## ENCLOSURES (check all that apply)

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form	<input type="checkbox"/> Assignment Papers (for an Application)	<input type="checkbox"/> After Allowance Communication to Group
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fee Attached	<input type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Amendment/Reply	<input type="checkbox"/> Licensing-related Papers	<input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Group (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief)
<input type="checkbox"/> After Final	<input type="checkbox"/> Petition	<input type="checkbox"/> Proprietary Information
<input type="checkbox"/> Affidavits/declaration(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application	<input type="checkbox"/> Status Letter
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Extension of Time Request	<input type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney, Revocation Change of Correspondence Address	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other Enclosure(s) (please identify below)
<input type="checkbox"/> Express Abandonment Request	<input type="checkbox"/> Terminal Disclaimer	Return Receipt Postcard
<input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement	<input type="checkbox"/> Request for Refund	
<input type="checkbox"/> Certified Copy of Priority Document(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> CD, Number of CD(s) _____	
<input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts/ Incomplete Application	Remarks	
<input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53		

RECEIVED  
MAR 31 2003  
TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

## SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT

Firm or Individual Name	FULBRIGHT & JAWORSKI L.L.P. Alberto Q. Amatong, Jr.
Signature	
Date	March 21, 2003

## Transmittal

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service as Express Mail, Airbill No. EU0984964057S, in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231, on the date shown below.

Dated: March 21, 2003

Signature:

(Beth J. Cobb)

MAR 21 2003

PATENT &amp; TRADEMARK OFFICE

PTO/SB/17 (01-03)

Approved for use through 04/30/2003. OMB 0651-0032

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number.

**FEE TRANSMITTAL  
for FY 2003**

Patent fees are subject to annual revision.

☐ Applicant claims small entity status. See 37 CFR 1.27**TOTAL AMOUNT OF PAYMENT** (\$) **410.00****Complete if Known**

Application Number	09/615,978
Filing Date	July 14, 2000
First Named Inventor	Paul M. Ducker
Examiner Name	J.F. Stephens
Group Art Unit	3761
Attorney Docket No.	HO-P01880US1

**METHOD OF PAYMENT (check all that apply)**☒ Check ☐ Credit Card ☐ Money Order ☐ Other ☐ None☐ Deposit AccountDeposit  
Account  
Number

06-2375

Deposit  
Account  
Name

Fulbright &amp; Jaworski L.L.P.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to: (check all that apply)

☐ Charge fee(s) indicated below ☒ Credit any overpayments☐ Charge any additional fee(s) during the pendency of this application☐ Charge fee(s) indicated below, except for the filing fee to the above-identified deposit account.**FEE CALCULATION****1. BASIC FILING FEE**

Large Entity Small Entity

Fee Code	Fee (\$)	Fee Code	Fee (\$)	Fee Description	Fee Paid
1001	750	2001	375	Utility filing fee	
1002	330	2002	165	Design filing fee	
1003	520	2003	260	Plant filing fee	
1004	750	2004	375	Reissue filing fee	
1005	160	2005	80	Provisional filing fee	

**SUBTOTAL (1)** (\$) **0.00****2. EXTRA CLAIM FEES FOR UTILITY AND REISSUE**

Total Claims	Extra Claims	Fee from below	Fee Paid
20** =			
Independent Claims	-3** =		
Multiple Dependent			

Large Entity Small Entity

Fee Code	Fee (\$)	Fee Code	Fee (\$)	Fee Description	Fee Paid
1202	18	2202	9	Claims in excess of 20	
1201	84	2201	42	Independent claims in excess of 3	
1203	280	2203	140	Multiple dependent claim, if not paid	
1204	84	2204	42	** Reissue independent claims over original patent	
1205	18	2205	9	** Reissue claims in excess of 20 and over original patent	

**SUBTOTAL (2)** (\$) **0.00**

\*\*or number previously paid, if greater; For Reissues, see above

**FEE CALCULATION (continued)****3. ADDITIONAL FEES**

Large Entity Fee Code	Large Entity Fee (\$)	Small Entity Fee Code	Small Entity Fee (\$)	Fee Description	Fee Paid
1051	130	2051	65	Surcharge - late filing fee or oath	
1052	50	2052	25	Surcharge - late provisional filing fee or cover sheet	
1053	130	1053	130	Non-English specification	
1812	2,520	1812	2,520	For filing a request for ex parte reexamination	
1804	920*	1804	920*	Requesting publication of SIR prior to Examiner action	
1805	1,840*	1805	1,840*	Requesting publication of SIR after Examiner action	
1251	110	2251	55	Extension for reply within first month	
1252	410	2252	205	Extension for reply within second month	410.00
1253	930	2253	465	Extension for reply within third month	
1254	1,450	2254	725	Extension for reply within fourth month	
1255	1,970	2255	985	Extension for reply within fifth month	
1401	320	2401	160	Notice of Appeal	
1402	320	2402	160	Filing a brief in support of an appeal	
1403	280	2403	140	Request for oral hearing	
1451	1,510	1451	1,510	Petition to institute a public use proceeding	
1452	110	2452	55	Petition to revive - unavoidable	
1453	1,300	2453	650	Petition to revive - unintentional	
1501	1,300	2501	650	Utility issue fee (or reissue)	
1502	470	2502	235	Design issue fee	
1503	630	2503	315	Plant issue fee	
1460	130	1460	130	Petitions to the Commissioner	
1807	50	1807	50	Processing fee under 37 CFR 1.17(q)	
1806	180	1806	180	Submission of Information Disclosure Stmt	
8021	40	8021	40	Recording each patent assignment per property (times number of properties)	
1809	750	2809	375	Filing a submission after final rejection (37 CFR 1.129(a))	
1810	750	2810	375	For each additional invention to be examined (37CFR 1.129(b))	
1801	750	2801	375	Request for Continued Examination (RCE)	
1802	900	1802	900	Request for expedited examination of a design application	

Other fee (specify)

\*Reduced by Basic Filing Fee Paid

**SUBTOTAL (3)** (\$) **410.00****SUBMITTED BY**Name (Print/Type) **Alberto Q. Amatong, Jr.**Registration No.  
(Attorney/Agent)**41,580****Complete (if applicable)**Telephone **(713) 651-5301**

Signature

**A Q A J**

Date

**March 21, 2003****Fee Transmittal**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service as Express Mail, Airbill No. EU0984964057S, in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231, on the date shown below.

Dated: March 21, 2003

Signature:

**Beth J. Cobb**

(Beth J. Cobb)